

OPEN MASTERS GAMES

ABU DHABI 2026

BOWLING



V3

Updated: January 3, 2025

1. General Information

1.1. Governance

The bowling competition will be conducted in accordance with the regulations of the International Bowling Federation (IBF), the World Tenpin Bowling Association, the Emirates Bowling Federation (EBF) and any specific guidelines issued by the International Masters Games Association (IMGA).

1.2. Eligibility

In line with the sport-specific rules, an athlete must compete in their designated age group, with their age determined as of 31 December 2026. For example, if you are 39 years old during the Games time but turn 40 by 31 December 2026, you would compete in the 40-44 age category.

The age of the youngest registered team member determines which age category the team will compete in. For example, a team with the youngest member at 54 years old should register for the 50+ age category.

Health Declaration

Athletes should carefully evaluate whether their physical condition is suitable for participating in the competition. If they suffer from cardiovascular or other diseases that make them not suitable to engage strenuous exercise, seeking doctor's advice is recommended to evaluate whether they can safely participate in WMG events.

Health Insurance

- All participants **MUST** have a medical insurance policy while in the U.A.E.
- Residents and citizens must ensure their respective health insurance policy covers sports injuries.

The Ziyarah Plan, provided by Daman, is a health insurance policy specifically created for the Open Masters Games. You can purchase this plan using the link below

<https://www.damanhealth.ae/products/inbound-emergency-medical-travel-insurance-ziyarah-open-masters/>

Ziyarah Plan (Open Masters Games)

Ensuring your peace of mind for the upcoming event

Coverage Period: 15 days

Scope of Coverage:

- Upto AED 250,000, comprehensive coverage for medical emergencies and sports-related injuries incurred during the event period.
- Direct billing at network providers.
- Consultations through Pura App (Maximum up to 3 consultations).

Eligibility Requirements:

- Registered players and their accompanying family members.
- Health insurance plan to be purchased before participants travel to UAE.

Premium details:

- Upto 60 years: AED 86 (VAT extra)
- 61years & above: AED 215 (VAT extra)

Important Note for Residents and UAE Nationals

UAE residents (Expats) & UAE nationals will need to ensure their respective health insurance plans cover sports injuries, as they will not be eligible for this plan

damaninsurance.ae

Accreditation

All participants must have approved accreditation to access the fields of play and to compete. This accreditation can be collected for the Uniform Distribution and Accreditation Centre (U.D.A.C) located in Zayed Sports City.

Team captains, coaches/managers and assistant managers **cannot** collect accreditation on behalf of teammates. Each participant must personally present themselves and their ID at the point of collection. It is at this point that participants will also receive their welcome kit.

The operating dates and hours of the UDAC will be announced in due course. Please subscribe to the OMGAD newsletter and or download our app for the latest push updates.

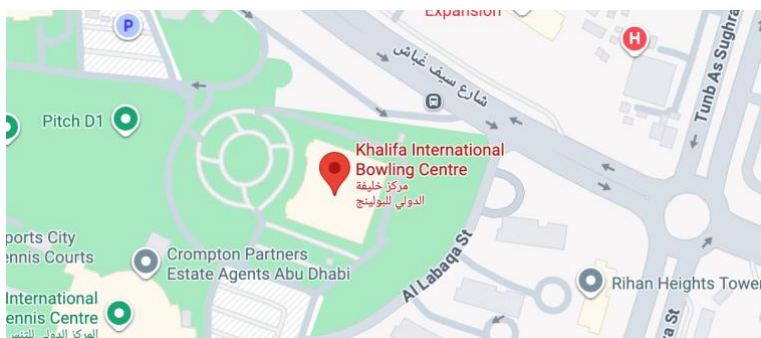
1.3. Dates

Date	February 9 Monday	February 10 Tuesday	February 11 Wednesday	February 12 Thursday	February 13 Friday	February 14 Saturday
Singles						
Doubles						
Mixed Doubles						

All dates and times are subject to change, pending final entries received. A detailed schedule of events for each discipline will be developed throughout 2025.

1.4. Venue

Khalifa International Bowling Centre, Zayed Sports City



2. Competition Information

2.1. Disciplines, Events & Grading

Discipline	Event	Category		
		Gender	Classification	Age
	Singles	Male	N/A	30+, 35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+, 85+, 95+
		Female		
	Doubles	Male		
		Female		
	Mixed Doubles	Mixed		
Para	Singles	Male	Visually Impaired: ¹ TPB1, TPB2 and TPB3 Physical Impairment: TPB8, TPB9 and TPB10	35+, 55+
		Female		
	Doubles	Male		
		Female		
	Mixed Doubles	Mixed		

¹ Added detail on para classes (28/11)

If there are insufficient entries in an age category, categories may be combined to conduct a viable competition. The awarding of medals will not be affected, that is, individuals will still be awarded medals in the age category in which they originally entered.

Para Classification

All classes will compete together in the para competition. The OMGAD2026 will offer national classification opportunities in the days prior to the start of the competition.

International Classifiers will be available for the following impairments:

PI: Physical Impairment

VI: Visual Impairment

Athletes will need to present themselves for classification at the date and time designated by the sport. As a result, the classification outcomes will not be officially recognized by the respective International Federations.

Eligible sport class status to participate in the Games are as follows.

R = Review

FRD = Fixed Review Date

C = Confirmed

2.2. Format

The bowling competition will follow a two-phase format: **Qualification Rounds** and **Finals**.

To ensure fair play and equal lane transition for all participants, the following lane movement rule shall apply:

- The competition will be played over six games
- Lane movement will occur after every two games

The movement method will be as follows:

- Players or teams starting on the right lane of a pair will move to the right.
- Players or teams starting on the left lane of a pair will move to the left.
- Movement will be to the adjacent lane pair, maintaining the same left/right position.

This movement pattern will be applied after Game 2 and Game 4, ensuring that all participants compete on different lane surfaces and conditions throughout the event.

General Notes

- All lane movements will be supervised by tournament officials.
- Any deviation or adjustment due to technical or operational issues will be communicated by the Tournament Director.
- This rule applies equally to Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles events, unless otherwise officially announced.

2.3. Schedule



BOWLING

Venue: Khalifa International Bowling Centre

Venue: Khaitan International Bowling Centre								
Event	Squad No.	Age	09-Feb Mon	10-Feb Tue	11-Feb Wed	12-Feb Thu	13-Feb Fri	14-Feb Sat
Singles	Squad 1	M55+, M65+, M75+, M85+ M95+	Qualifying	Finals				
	Squad 2	M30+, M35+, M45+						
	Squad 3	F30+, F35+, F45+, F55+, F65+, F75+, F85+, F95+						
Doubles	Squad 1	M30+, M35+, M45+, M55+, M65+, M75+, M85+, M95+			Qualifying	Finals		
	Squad 2	F30+, F35+, F45+, F55+, F65+, F75+, F85+, F95+						
Mixed Doubles	Single Squad	30+, 35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+, 85+, 95+					Qualifying	Finals
Para Singles	Single Squad	M35+, M55+	Qualifying	Finals				
		F35+, F55+						
Para Doubles		M35+, M55+			Qualifying	Finals		
		F35+, F55+						

Practice

Participants can book a practice slot on the 7th or 8th of February from 10am to 4pm. This should be arranged by the participant.

Qualification Rounds

All registered athletes will compete in the qualifying stage, where each participant will bowl a set number of games—typically six. The total cumulative pinfall from these games will determine the preliminary rankings. Performances in the qualifying rounds are critical, as only the top-ranked athletes from each age and gender category will advance to the final stage.

Finals

The top athletes—usually the top 4, 6, or 8 depending on the number of entries—will progress to the finals in their respective categories. The finals may consist of an additional series of games, with pinfall from these rounds alone determining the final rankings. Qualification scores will not carry over to the finals unless otherwise specified in the competition briefing.

In some categories, finals may also adopt a stepladder or knockout format, based on final entry numbers and the decision of the Bowling Committee.

2.4. Scoring

The competition will use **total pinfall** as the primary method for ranking participants. Each athlete's total number of pins knocked down across their games will be recorded and used to determine their standings in both qualification and finals.

Tie-Break Rule

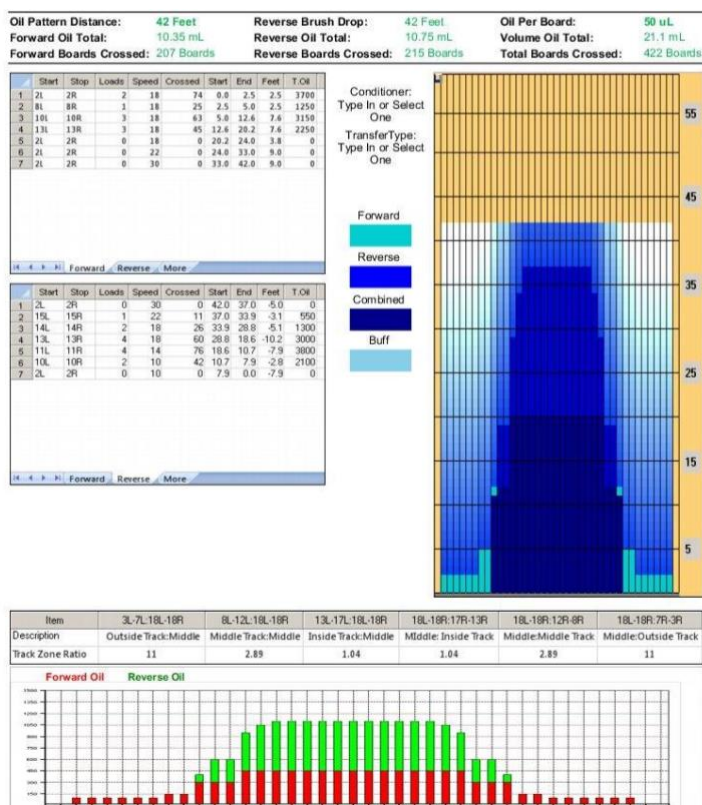
In the event of a tie between players or teams affecting rankings, qualification, or prize positions, the tie shall be resolved by a roll-off using Frames 9 and 10 only.

- Each tied player/team will bowl Frames 9 and 10, starting from a fresh setup.
- The combined pinfall of Frames 9 and 10 will determine the winner.
- If the tie persists, the roll-off shall continue on Frame 10 only, repeated as necessary until the tie is broken.

2.5. House Pattern and Oiling

Lanes will be oiled after each squad has completed their competition

The house pattern will be 42 feet



3. Technical Details

3.1. Technical Delegate

The Technical Delegate will be Mr. Ahmed Murad. He will oversee the implementation of all sport specific rules and requirements at the Games.

3.2. Competition Management

The competition management team is as follows:

#	Name	Position	Email
1.	Ahmed Murad	Technical Delegate/Competition Manager	bowling@omgad2026.ae
2.	Tarek Souei	Para Sports Technical Delegate	Tarek.souei@gmail.com
3.	Salah Riahi	Para Sports Manager	parasports@omgad2026.ae



4. Equipment & Uniform

4.1. Equipment

Participants who require equipment must personally arrange rental of equipment from the Khalifa International Bowling Centre.

<https://www.zsc.ae/en/sport/bowling>

All personal equipment must conform to the technical requirements of international bowling standards. Athletes are responsible for the maintenance and condition of their gear. Organisers reserve the right to inspect equipment for compliance and safety. Use of unauthorized or unsafe equipment may lead to disqualification.

4.2. Uniform

All athletes participating in the OMGAD2026 bowling competition are required to wear appropriate sportswear that reflects the spirit of fair play and professionalism. The following uniform guidelines apply:

- Shirts: Collared or bowling-specific shirts must be worn. Sleeveless tops, tank tops, or tops with offensive graphics or messages are not permitted.
- Trousers or skirts: Athletes may wear tailored sports trousers, skirts, or skorts. Denim jeans, shorts above mid-thigh, or excessively loose or torn clothing are not allowed.
- Uniforms must be free of any political messages, personal slogans, or imagery that could be deemed inappropriate or disruptive to the spirit of the competition.

5. Awarding

5.1. Medals

The top 3 athletes and doubles will be awarded the gold medal, silver medal and bronze medal respectively.

5.2. Ceremonies

- In OMGAD2026, athletes are individuals and represent themselves. National flags and anthems will not be included in medal ceremonies.
- The medal ceremony will be held after each final.
- The medal ceremony will be conducted in Arabic and English.

6. Protests and Appeals

6.1. Protests

- Competition-related disputes and protests shall be handled according to rules and related regulations of the international association of the sport. If there are no rules regarding such disputes and protests in place, the competitor may first make verbal protest and submit written protest to OMGAD within 30 minutes after the end of a contest.
- No protest can be lodged by any team members or staff against a judging (scoring) decision during the competition period.

6.2. Appeals

- Based on the principle of trust, the Organizer will not take the initiative to review the grade of athletes upon registration. Matters regarding athlete qualifications and grades should be submitted to the Organizer with relevant supporting materials before the Games or when the fact occurs. The complaint will be handled in accordance with the rules and relevant regulations of international sports federations and relevant regulations.
- Applications that are not submitted within the stipulated time or with incomplete materials will not be accepted.

7. Doping Control

7.1. Regulations

- Doping Control should be conducted in accordance with WADA World Anti-Doping Code (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en>) and International Masters Games Association (IMGA) Anti-Doping Rules (<https://imga.ch/masterssports/anti-doping>).
- Participants are deemed to have agreed to be subject to doping control procedures in accordance with the International Masters Games Association Anti-Doping Rules upon entry to the competition. Participants must obey antidoping rules and conduct themselves in a considerate manner.



8. Updates

The final entry list will be published on Friday January 23rd.